

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The invention relates to a zoom lens that enables an optical path to be easily bent and has high optical specification performance such as a high zoom ratio, a
5 wide-angle arrangement, a small F-number and limited aberrations. The zoom lens comprises, in order from its object side, a lens group A (G1) that comprises a negative lens, a reflecting optical element P for bending the optical path and remains fixed upon zooming, a lens group
10 B (G2) that moves in one direction alone upon zooming from the wide-angle end to the telephoto end of the zoom lens and an aperture stop S that remains immovable with respect to position upon zooming. The zoom lens satisfies condition (1) with respect to the degree of change in the
15 magnification of the lens group B from the wide-angle end to the telephoto end.